Docket Number 09/779,156 Docket 00/053 MFE Art Unit 1774

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A opaque, white film with a thickness of from 10 to 500 μm, wherein the film comprises a crystallizable thermoplastic, barium sulfate, and at least one optical brightener, wherein said crystallizable thermoplastic consists essentially of polyester, wherein the barium sulfate or the optical brightener, or the barium sulfate and the optical brightener have been incorporated directly into the crystallizable thermoplastic or are fed as a masterbatch during film production, and wherein at least one surface of the film bears a functional coating with a thickness of from 5 to 10 nm, wherein the luminous transmittance of the film is reduced when the longitudinal stretch ratio is increased for a film of the same thickness.

Please enter new claim 16.

16. (New) The opaque white film as claimed in claim 1, wherein said opaque white film further comprises regrind.

Remarks

On page 2 of the Office Action dated November 27, 2001 the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,660,931 as previously stated in the Office Action dated May 22, 2002. The examiner points out that Kim discloses a white film comprising polyethylene terephthalate, barium sulfate, and bisbenzoazole as an optical brightener. In view of amended claim 1, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The '931 patent issued to Kim et al. discloses a crystallizable thermoplastic comprised of polyethylene terephthalate for use as a paper substitute. More specifically,